

**MINUTES
OF
MEETING OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

Central Office Auditorium
1221 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia

January 15, 2004
9:00 a.m.

The meeting of the Commonwealth Transportation Board was held in the Central Auditorium of the Department of Transportation in Richmond, Virginia on January 15, 2004. The Chairman, Whittington W. Clement presided and called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.

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Present: Messrs. Bailey, Bowie, Davies, Keen, Klinge, Lester, Martin, McCarthy, Mitchel, Stone, Watson, and Ms. Connally and Ms. Dragas; and Ms. Rae, ex officio, Director of the Department of Rail and Public Transportation.

Absent: Mr. White and Vice Chairman Shucet.

The Chairman welcomed new CTB member Mr. Dana Martin, serving as the Salem District representative. Mr. Martin was sworn in upon the adjournment and resignation of Mr. Onzlee Ware, November 20, 2003. As the December 2003 meeting was cancelled, this is Mr. Martin's first opportunity for board participation.

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Agenda Item 1: Public Comment: The Chairman referenced public comments made by Mr. Urchie Ellis at the November 2003 meeting and CTB member Dragas' request that the CTB consider and respond accordingly. Mr. Ellis' verbal comments focused primarily upon the Tax Reform Study and the Fuel Tax with an additional two-page handout illustrating the history of the tax and the percentile discrepancies in tax surcharges v. weight relative to the trucking industry. He advocated the CTB support an increase in the tax surcharges. The Chairman stated that the CTB would not be endorsing any funding proposal other than Governor Warner's tax reform package, which includes increased funding for transportation. He further stated that he conveyed this to Mr. Ellis and, on behalf of the CTB, thanked him for his continued involvement and participation in seeking solutions to the transportation issues facing the Commonwealth.

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Agenda Item 2: Action on Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of November 20, 2003 Copy of approved minutes on file with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Commissioner's Office and posted on the VDOT Internet website: www.virginiadot.org and the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall.

Moved by Mr. Keen, seconded by Ms. Connally, with Mr. Mitchel abstaining due to his absence in November. Motion carried, minutes approved.

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DEPARTMENT OF RAIL AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Agenda Item 3: Action (by single motion) on Rail Industrial Access projects, specifically (A) Louisa County - ChipCo, Inc.; (B) Tazewell County 0- Pounding Mill Quarry Corporation and (C) Town of Altavista - Rage Corporation. Referenced by attachment of Resolutions, locality resolutions, Decision Briefs and maps.

Prior to the motion, the Chairman stated that he and Director Rae have an agreement with the Governor to fund six of these projects per year. Mr. Bowie requested that future project presentations of this nature include the source of funding.

(A-C) Moved by Mr. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Mitchel. Motion carried, resolutions approved.

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RIGHT OF WAY DIVISION:

Agenda Item 4: Action (by single motion) on Surplus Land Conveyances, specifically (A) Route 11 - Rockbridge County, (B) Route 23 - City of Norton, (C) Route 42 - Augusta County, (D) Route 58 - Henry County, (E) Route 250 - Highland County, (F) Route 613 - Augusta County and (G) Route 657 - Buckingham County. Referenced by attachment of Resolutions and Decision Briefs.

Moved by Mr. Klinge, seconded by Mr. Mitchel. Motion carried, resolutions approved.

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Agenda Item 5: Action on Locality Land Conveyances, specifically Route 295 in Henrico County [New Wade Lane], Route 664 in the City of Chesapeake [portion of Old Woodland Drive and Dock Landing Road] and Route 23 in the City of Norton [portion of Hawthorne Drive]. Referenced by attachment of Resolution and Decision Brief.

Moved by Mr. Bowie, seconded by Mr. Klinge. Motion carried, resolution approved.

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ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION:

Agenda Item 6: Action on Surplus Land Conveyance, specifically Route 641 in Albemarle County, the Albemarle/Greene Storage Lot - a 7.992 acre parcel 0.4 miles east of Route 29. Referenced by attachment of Resolution and Decision Brief.

Mr. Davies inquired if any alternate uses had been explored such as exchanging this parcel for a similar sized parcel nearer the Route 29 corridor that could be used as a park-n-ride. A discussion ensued and it was the consensus of the board to defer action on this item until further options could be explored and developed.

Motion deferred - no action taken.

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MOBILITY MANAGEMENT DIVISION:

Agenda Item 7: Action (by single motion) on Bridges Designations, specifically (A) Route 647 - Culpeper County - "Earl S. Hawkins Bridge", (B) Route 610 - Wise County - "Riggs Memorial Bridge" and (C) Route 657 - Rockbridge County - "George A. Ayres Bridge". Referenced by attachment of Resolutions, Decision Briefs and maps.

(A-C) Moved by Mr. Davies, seconded by Mr. Bailey. Motion carried, resolution approved.

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Agenda Item 8: Action (by single motion) on Abandonment, changes in the Primary System due to Relocation and Construction, specifically (A) Old Route 7 - Frederick County and (B) Old Route 28 - Nelson County. Referenced by attachment of Resolutions, Decision Briefs and maps.

(A-B) Moved by Mr. Watson, seconded by Ms. Connally. Motion carried, resolutions approved.

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Agenda Item 9: Action on a Cooperative Agreement, specifically a Joint Agreement between the Commonwealth Transportation Board and the State of Tennessee, Department of Transportation to allow for the deployment of a Virginia Department of Transportation-owned and operated electronic changeable message sign on Interstate 81 near Bristol, TN and to authorize the Commonwealth Transportation Commissioner to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Commonwealth Transportation Board and to administer the project. Referenced by attachment of a Resolution and Decision Brief.

Moved by Mr. Bowie, seconded by Mr. Mitchel. Motion carried, resolution approved.

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LOCATION AND DESIGN DIVISION:

Agenda Item 10: Action on a Location and Design Project, specifically Route 134 - City of Hampton - Armistead Avenue Connector Phase IA and Offsite Improvements. Referenced by attachment of a Resolution, Public Hearing Summary, Decision Brief and Map.

Moved by Mr. Lester, seconded by Mr. Mitchel. Motion carried, resolution approved.

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Agenda Item 11: Action on a Memorandum of Agreement, specifically Route 219 - Monroe County, WV and Giles County, VA - To authorize a state-to-state agreement between West Virginia and Virginia for the shared responsibility for the preparation of the design plans, acquisition of right-of-way, and construction for the replacement of the approaches and bridges on Route 219 over Rich Creek at the state line, and to authorize the Commonwealth Transportation Commissioner to enter into the agreement. Referenced by attachment of a Resolution, Attachment A to the Resolution [the contract], a Decision Brief and map.

Moved by Dr. Stone, seconded by Mr. Mitchel. Motion carried, resolution approved.

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SCHEDULING & CONTRACT DIVISION:

Agenda Item 13: Action on Bids for Interstate, Primary, Secondary, Urban and Miscellaneous Projects Received November 18 and December 16, 2003, for projects in excess of \$2 million for award and authorized execution of contracts by the Commissioner, or Chief Engineer for Program Development, and for deferral, rejection, rescindment and authorized readvertisement, as indicated. Referenced by attachment of Bid Results Report.

Regarding the Fairfax County Route 1 bid, Mr. Mitchel expressed concern that there was only one bid for the project [Mr. Coburn responded that it was a concern but as the bid was considerably lower than the project estimate the decision was made to accept the bid]; and Mr. Klinge questioned if sound walls were incorporated into the project [Mr. Coburn was unsure but would research and provide the information to Mr. Klinge]. Regarding the Rockbridge County bridge project at the Maury River, Dr. Stone questioned if the project included de-icing components [Mr. Coburn responded that it did not, but did incorporate some of the Smart Road technologies].

Moved by Mr. Mitchel, seconded by Mr. McCarthy. Motion carried, report approved.

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LOCAL ASSISTANCE DIVISION:

Agenda Item 13: Action on a Revenue Sharing Reallocation, specifically from the County Primary and Secondary Road Fund - York County. Referenced by attachment of Resolution, and Decision Brief.

Moved by Mr. Kline, seconded by Mr. Lester. Motion carried, resolution approved.

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Agenda Item 14: Action on an Urban Project Allocation Adjustment, specifically Warwick Boulevard/Middleground Boulevard - City of Newport News. Referenced by attachment of Resolution and Decision Brief.

Moved by Mr. Lester, seconded by Ms. Dragas. Motion carried, resolution approved.

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NEW BUSINESS

Agenda Item 15: Action [by separate resolutions] on Transference of Enhancement Grant Funds, specifically (A) Mount Zion Church - Loudoun County; transfer of funds from the Visitor's Center construction to the acquisition of Scenic and Historic property located at the historic intersection of Old Carolina Road and the Little River Turnpike and (B) Historic Railroad Turntable - City of Staunton; transfer of funds from the cancelled Relocation and Restoration of a Historic Railroad Turntable project to the Signage Program for Entryways and Historic Districts project. Referenced by attachment of Resolutions, and Decision Briefs.

(A) Moved by Mr. Mitchel, seconded by Mr. Watson. Motion carried, resolution approved.

(B) Moved by Dr. Stone, seconded by Ms. Connally. Motion carried, resolution approved.

It was requested that all future enhancement grant fund transfer resolutions, as prepared by the Local Assistance Division, be prepared in advance so that the paperwork can be included in the monthly advance meeting package of materials.

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OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Lester opened a discussion regarding the Governor's budget and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation's presentations concerning the establishment of a Rail Authority advocacy group. He suggested a motion: "To express support for the concept of the establishment of a Rail Authority advocacy group [amended by Mr. Mitchel: "and to identify a revenue source"] and [amended by Ms. Rae who stated the present Bill being considered by the Session will include the proposal "that some CTB members be on the Authority"]; and to express the sense of the Board to support the Governor's budget proposals to stabilize the General Fund, which will secure transportation funding". Seconded by Ms. Dragas. Motion approved.

The Chairman stated that the Secretary's Office structure had originally included an Office of Intermodalism, but there was currently no funding for this, but hoped that the next budget would include funds for an inter-modal focus. He also stated that 8 positions would be transferred from the Virginia Department of Transportation to the Department of Rail and Public Transportation.

ADJOURNED: The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

The next workshop and meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 17, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. and Thursday, March 18, 2004 at 9:00 a.m., respectively, in the VDOT Central Auditorium at 1221 East Broad Street, Richmond, VA.

Approved:

Chairman

Attested:

Secretary